

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,
OF MINNESOTA,

AT ITS FOURTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, IN THE CITY OF
ST. PAUL, COMMENCING JANUARY 7TH, A. D. 1856.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand ☐ of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Minnesota, was opened in the Hall of the Minnesota Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, in St. Paul, on the first Monday in January, A. D. 1856, A. D. L. 5856, being the seventh day of said month. Present,

M. W. MOSES SHERBURNE, Grand Master.
R. W. A. T. O. PIERSON, D. G. M., as Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. H. N. SETZER, as Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. J. H. STEVENS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. HENRY REYNOLDS, Grand Secretary.
W. REV. J. PENMAN, Grand Chaplain.
W. L. P. WRIGHT, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. GEO. T. VAIL, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. GEO. L. BECKER, Grand Pursuivant.
W. A. RICHARDSON, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from a constitutional number of ☐ being present, the Grand ☐ was opened in ample form, and with prayer, by the R. W. and Rev. J. Penman, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Secretary, under direction of the M. W. G. M., proceeded to make out the following roll of Grand and Past Grand Officers and Representatives, entitled to be present and vote at this Grand Annual Communication :

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. MOSES SHERBURNE, Grand Master.
R. W. A. T. O. PIERSON, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. C. T. STEARNS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. A. VAN VORHES, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. J. H. STEVENS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. HENRY REYNOLDS, Grand Secretary.
W. REV. J. PENMAN, Grand Chaplain.
W. E. A. HODSDON, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. WM. HOLCOMB, Grand Sword Bearer.
W. GEO. L. BECKER, Grand Pursuivant.
W. GOULD S. CURTIS, Grand Marshal.

JANUARY 8th, 1856, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor.

The M.: W.: Moses Sherburne, Grand Master, presiding, then delivered the following

ADDRESS.

My Brethren.:—We meet to-day, after the separation of a year of unusual prosperity. Our own Order, our Territory, and our Country, have been blessed almost beyond precedent. With few exceptions, health has reigned in our midst; every department of labor and honest industry has received its full reward, and we are at peace among ourselves, and with all the world. It is an occasion when it would be hard to restrain our mutual and brotherly congratulations. More especially is it an occasion when our hearts should be alive with gratitude to the Great Disposer of human events.

Freemasonry has higher, broader objects in view than the mere prosperity and success of its own Order. It looks to the well being of the whole brotherhood of man. Its principles are those alone which can lead on to virtue, wisdom, prosperity and happiness; and one branch of its mission is to scatter those principles broadcast over the earth. It is a mistaken belief, too often entertained, that its purpose is fulfilled by administering to the physical necessities and wants of poor distressed brothers, their widows and orphans.

Masonry aims at making men better, higher, nobler beings; it denounces vice, and teaches virtue and purity; and no man is a Freemason in practice, whose example is not worthy of being followed by the philanthropist and the christian. Its true spirit has nothing in it which is selfish. The rule that directs the charity of the Order first to a brother, contains nothing in conflict with the universality of that charity. It is the rule, or at least the practice, of almost every political, religious, social or charitable organization. The State looks first to the wants of its own subjects, the Church to its own members, and Masons to their brother Masons. It is a law of self-preservation, and if the Institution is worth preserving at all, the first duty of its members is to support each other. After that, the Mason is bound, as well by the principles of his Order as by his Masonic obligations, to do good to all men—not only by the offerings of charity, but by teaching the fundamental principles of his craft, and by so conducting himself that the world shall be made better by his example.

We do not meet to-day, my brethren, I trust, thanking our Divine Master for the prosperity of Masonry only, but for those manifold favors which have been and are still being showered down upon our common country. This feeling may not be prominent in every member of the Fraternity. It is a matter of regret to all true brothers that every Mason in name is not a Mason in fact. Perfection in our Fraternity is, of course, impossible, but it should be our constant determination to approximate towards it. It is believed that great numbers present their petitions and are admitted to our fold with motives, which, if made public, should at once exclude them. The candidate who has no other motive than that which pertains to his own personal advantage, is unworthy of admission. Some are induced to offer themselves, and are admitted, at the very moment of commencing a long journey, or of removing to some other State or country. They pass away a large portion of their lives heedless of Freemasonry, or denouncing its principles, till an exigency arises which promises some direct personal advantage, and then they come forward for its rights and benefits. Such men should generally be rejected. The Craft derive no advantage from the connection, but on the contrary are burdened and perplexed in many instances by the unreasonable and selfish demands of such persons, and the influence of our Order is lessened by the apparent sordid character of that portion of its members. Others

offer themselves to save sinking reputations; others in the hope of extending their business relations; others in the ambition of associating with better men than themselves, and others still, in the expectation of deriving support through the medium of Masonic charity. Such men, if they could be identified, should generally be rejected. Every man before being made a Mason should first be prepared in his heart. A Masonic ☐ is not designed as an asylum for idiocy or insanity; as a house of refuge for the poor, nor a house of correction for the wicked. Like the general, obtaining recruits for his army, we should take none but sound men. They should be sound mentally, physically and morally. All others serve only to eat our stores, impede our march, and increase the risk of defeat in our main purposes. We must care well for our own wounded and infirm, but never enlist such.

I refer to this, because in it lies the greatest danger to our Fraternity. The day of our highest prosperity is the day of our greatest peril. Like a political party certain of victory, we may expect in this, our day of success, to see elbowing their way among us, every hypocrite, renegade and vagabond who has neither home or hope in any other quarter.

There is often a fatal ambition in ☐ to increase their numbers—sometimes because it gives eclat to their names—sometimes because it increases their funds. In this state of things there is danger of less scrutiny of the character and standing of the candidates than is necessary, and many little uncertainties are winked at by ☐, by reason of their vanity, or in view of their treasury. Such conduct is in violation of the great fundamental principles of our Order, and every such ☐ not only injures itself, but it wounds, in a serious manner, the whole Masonic Fraternity. It is better that ten good men should be rejected than one vicious one received. The good man can live without us, but we cannot live in harmony with a vicious one. This evil of admitting unworthy brethren has for a few years past been increasing in many places to an alarming extent, and I warn you, my brethren, to beware in this our new, and mixed population, and now in our infancy, as a Territorial jurisdiction, to avoid the error so far as human foresight can do so.

The multiplication of ☐ is an evil scarcely less to be avoided. The former error is almost the necessary fruit of the latter. In this respect the Grand ☐ of Minnesota has, up to the present time, been sufficiently cautious; but reasons for new ☐ are so easily imagined, or manufactured, that the Grand ☐ should ever be upon its guard. The most common, although not the ostensible reason for an unnecessary ☐, is a difficulty among the brethren. Some portion of the ☐ are defeated in their expectations, or voted down in their movements, (perhaps unjustly so,) and they forthwith adopt measures for a new organization. This action is not in accordance with the spirit of Freemasonry, and if encouraged by the acquiescence of the Grand ☐, our whole Craft will by and by be found in little clans, whose chief business will be to oppose each other. Masons must learn to sacrifice their personal whims, prejudices and hatreds, especially as regards brother Masons, or they are unworthy a place in the ☐, or the benefits it confers. To think of reconciling combating Masons by separating them, has something in the idea—to say the least of it—of a beastly character. If human beings—men—brother Masons—must be placed in separate cages to prevent mutual injury, they should, without delay, be expelled from our flock. Masons should never for a moment entertain the thought of dividing, and subdividing the Fraternity merely for the sake of peace. Peace can never be the result of any such action.

Our brethren in many of the States, have for a long time felt the necessity of some national organization, before which questions of doubt and vexation, arising in the several Grand ☐ in the country, might be finally settled. To this end, a Convention of Masons was held in the city of Washington, on the third day of January last, by which, articles of confederation were adopted for the purpose of being presented to the Grand ☐ in the United States for their acceptance or rejection. The proceedings of this Convention, to which I call your especial attention, will be laid before you by the Secretary.

I regret to say, that in my opinion, the plan adopted by the Convention

will, in the end, fail to answer the purpose designed. It will, I fear, be found a hydra-headed monster, more powerful for evil than good. Its principal feature may be stated generally in a word. It provides that all questions of doubt and difficulty arising in various forms and ways among our Grand [] in the country, may be presented to all the Grand [] in the United States, and that the opinion of two-thirds of all the Grand [] shall be final. The first step then necessary to be taken under the plan of the Convention, is to make thirty-three copies of the case, including the testimony, without regard to its voluminous character, and forward a copy to each of the several Grand [] of the United States and Territories. This would sometimes be found an item of heavy expense, but is nevertheless one of the smallest objections to the plan proposed.

It is hardly too much to suppose that one question, at least, would upon an average, arise annually in each Grand [], making thirty-four in all, if I am correct in my recollection of the number of Grand [] in the United States and Territories. At least double this number may be reasonably anticipated after the system shall have been put in full operation. But assuming the number of cases to be thirty-three only, then each and every Grand [] of the United States, will have before it, at its Annual Communication, thirty-three causes for solemn trial and determination. If these causes are fully heard, discussed and tried, it may be assumed that they will occupy each Grand [], upon an average, one half day for each cause; making in all sixteen and one half days in addition to the time necessary to transact its legitimate business. If I am correct in these assumptions, it requires no argument to prove that the plan will prove a failure. The questions presented must be passed upon hastily, and without due consideration, or be entirely neglected. I am aware it may be said that the estimate of the disputed questions is too large, and during the first year or two, it may prove so; but let no brother trust to his hope of a millennium under the plan proposed, or any other plan, until he shall witness a radical change in the character of man. When the right of appeal shall be established, there will be found no want of parties desiring to avail themselves of it.

Again, no distinction is made between questions of law and questions of fact. The language is, "All matters of difficulty, &c. &c., be submitted, with the accompanying evidence and documents, &c." I confess I am at a loss to know how the provisions of the first article of the "Articles of Confederation" are to be carried into effect; and it does not require a prophetic vision to foresee that when the questions of practice arising under this article shall have been presented to thirty-three Grand [], there will result a scene of such confusion of opinions as never had a parallel since the confusion of tongues at the building of Babel. The provision is, that matters of difficulty shall be presented, &c., if the importance of the case, or the common welfare of the Fraternity demand it." Who is to judge of the importance of the case? What tribunal shall determine whether the welfare of the Fraternity demands a decision or not? Shall it be one of the parties litigant, or both of them, or shall it require a two-thirds vote of all the Grand []. If the power which it is proposed to confer upon all the Grand [], were conferred upon one body of men alone—a single organization—rules could be readily made to supply the defects, and the plan could be perfected so far as the foundation would admit of it; but no such result can be anticipated from thirty-three Grand [], working separate and independent of each other. It may be well to consider in this connection, what would be the condition of our civil government, if the duties of Congress were to be performed by the independent action of each State Legislature; or what would be the prospect of judicial promptness and certainty, if the business of the Supreme Court of the United States had been submitted by our Constitution to the concurrent opinions of all the State courts. The question contains its own answer. It is too absurd for argument. We might as well expect to set in motion the mountains of the earth, as to drive along successfully this anomalous body with thirty-three independent heads. Whether political, judicial or masonic, I believe that no such undertaking can ever succeed. The requirement of a two-thirds vote is also a provision of very doubtful policy. In

nine cases in ten, it will happen that the disputed point carried to the "confederation" will belong to that class of questions which may be decided either way with advantage to the Fraternity, so that the mooted point is permanently and definitely settled. When life or death is to be the direct result of a vote, as in judicial proceedings, it is safe to require a unanimous jury. So when a change in established rules or laws is to be the result of a vote, it is also proper that something more than a majority should be required, in order to ensure stability of government. No such reasons, however, apply to us. We do not desire to change established rules and laws, but only to have it definitely settled what they now are. We desire that questions of doubt should be determined one way or the other, that our path shall be open, straight and certain. The two-thirds rule will make this impossible in many instances, and our Fraternity will occupy the humiliating position of having a supreme arbiter for the settlement of disputed questions, and yet be without a tribunal with sufficient power to affect any such object.

The plan, however, is recommended by a convention of excellent men, and Masons, having the good of the Fraternity at heart, and was adopted by them as a compromise between honest, but conflicting opinions. I would not advise, under such circumstances, that it should not receive a trial; but in the hope that an attempt to act under it may elicit more attention to our real wants in this respect, I would almost recommend that it receive your favorable consideration.

It has always seemed to me that a General Grand ☐, formed by representatives from the different Grand ☐ having appellate jurisdiction within certain specified limits, would add infinitely to our harmony and prosperity. The time is fast approaching when something of the kind will be indispensable to the well being of our Order. It is steadily opposed by many of our ablest and best brethren, but I have not been fortunate enough to see the reasons for their opposition. It is said that the leading objection made to some proposition of the kind is, that it would be dangerous to confer so much power upon a great central organization. As to the centralization of power, we may be permitted to believe, with all due deference to our brethren, that their fears are excited without sufficient cause. Masonry is, in its government, a constitutional elective monarchy. As the election returns once in each year, the authority of the Master and the Grand Master has never been found oppressive, and has rarely, if ever, been willfully abused. We need a General Grand ☐ in this country for the same reasons that our brethren of one of the kingdoms of Europe need a Grand ☐. We can, as individual Masons, with as much safety, trust our representatives in a General Grand ☐, as in a Grand ☐. The peculiarity of our civil government originates a necessity which has no precedent in the history of Masonry. We find among us numerous independent Territorial Jurisdictions, at the same time that we are all living under the same civil government, and feeling almost instinctively that we should all acknowledge obedience to some Masonic supreme head. We feel constantly the necessity of some general laws that shall apply equally to all, and yet this is impossible, because all of our ☐ can never agree. A representative government, or one of delegated power, is the only free government which can exist. The masses can never legislate, even when assembled together. It would become more impossible when separated into thirty or forty different bodies.

A General Grand ☐ could not be corrupt, for it will have no treasury. It will have neither money or lands to give or take. It will not be in its power to confer honor, nor take it away, unless the settlement of a principle shall convict a brother of wrong. Its labors must consist in putting an end to questions of difference amongst our various Grand ☐, and thereby perfecting those rules and laws which direct us how we may best work and best agree. The whole matter is, however, before you, and will, I trust, receive that consideration which its importance demands.

The subject of dimits, and of non-affiliating Masons, is very justly attracting the attention of the Grand ☐ of this country, and is one to which I would call your attention. It presents several difficult questions, upon which harmony is extremely desirable, and yet seems almost impossible

until the adoption of some efficient organization for the final settlement of disputed questions. There is, in the first place, a wide difference of opinion as to the intention or effect of a dimitt—some Grand Masters contending that it operates as a perfect dissolution of the connection between the dimitted member and the ☐, while others contend that it has that effect only in case the dimitted member leaves the jurisdiction and affiliates with another ☐. Again, there is a difference of opinion as to the relations and duties subsisting between the ☐ and the dimitted or non-affiliated brother. It is contended by some, that every Mason is bound by the principles and Ancient Landmarks of his Order, to use due and reasonable diligence to connect himself with some working ☐, and, if able, to pay the dues of the ☐; and that a failure to comply with this rule should deprive a brother of all the rights, privileges and benefits of the Order; while others seem to think that ☐ have no right to impose a penalty of so great severity. The whole subject is surrounded with difficulties and conflicting opinions, and illustrate very clearly the great necessity of some central organization to which we can all appeal with confidence for the settlement of our differences.

I think that the granting of "dimitts" having the effect which that *modern* term implies, according to its usual acceptation among Masons of the present day, is a transaction on the part of ☐ of more serious importance than is generally supposed; and that they are often asked for, and granted without sufficient consideration on the one side, as to its propriety, or upon the other as to its effect. There is, indeed, no power in any ☐ to compel a brother to affiliate with its organization, or to prevent his dissolving his connection when he chooses to do so; and there can be no doubt that when a brother demands a discharge from his membership, the strongest reasons exist in favor of granting it. The conferring of the first three degrees in Masonry upon a man does not, under the ordinary laws of Masonry, confer upon him a membership with any particular ☐. It is optional with him after he has received his degrees, to become a member of a ☐ or otherwise; and it is also optional with the ☐ to receive him or not. He is not bound by his obligation to fraternize in any particular organization, and no Masonic ☐ is bound to admit him into their fold. The rights and duties of both parties are necessarily mutual. While, however, a brother may have the power to hold himself aloof from affiliation with the Fraternity, it still remains an important question whether he has the moral or Masonic right to do so without sufficient cause. But, however this may be decided, no regular made Mason can obsoleve himself from his obligations to a brother and to the Fraternity. There can be neither brotherhood or mutuality among the members of an institution which contributes equally to its workmen and its drones. And although a Mason has the power to separate from his ☐, or to refuse to connect himself with one, he has neither right or power to shake off his Masonic duties pointed out in his original obligations, without the commission of a crime which should be visited by the penalty of expulsion from our Order.

When a man receives the favor of being admitted to "*light*," he assumes certain responsibilities from which no power on earth can relieve him. It is not an idle consideration which he receives, nor are his duties of the fleeting, shadowy character which some seem to suppose. The contract is just, mutual and binding forever upon both parties, except when forfeited by crime or neglect. Masonry assumes no power to grant a dispensation for the violation of an obligation. For a brother to stand aloof from a Masonic responsibility, is a clear violation of his contract with the Fraternity, a clear violation of the ancient laws and regulations of his Order, and an equal violation of the spirit and letter of his solemn obligation. He may, as I have intimated, claim exemption from membership in a working ☐, but he cannot, consistently with his most sacred obligations, shake off his other Masonic responsibilities. To do so is, in my opinion, to forfeit his Masonic character. I do not recommend any action upon this subject, other than the appointment of a committee to consider the same, and report at your next annual Communication. It may at once be perceived that it belongs to that class of questions upon which the different Grand ☐ should, if possible, coincide in opinion; and it may

for this reason alone be unwise to change the former practice under your jurisdiction, or indeed to make any change upon the subject, until it shall have been fully examined by a competent committee.

It had been my intention to advise some action towards establishing uniformity in the work of the several [] under your jurisdiction, but more reflection has induced me to believe that it will be for your interest that the matter be postponed. The discrepancy is not very material, and it seems to me unadvisable, considering our want of years, and members, and means, to adopt a system which would probably require revision at the end of a short term of years. If the officers of the several [] would take upon themselves to meet occasionally, and work, and lecture together, I think great advantage would result from it. The idea is perfectly practicable, as our [] are now situated, but must of course be otherwise when brethren are found scattered over our immense Territory, as they soon will be. This is however a matter of private arrangement, and does not properly belong to the business of the Grand [].

Since the last meeting of this Grand [], I have received a communication from Joseph D. Evans, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of New York, calling my attention to the subject of an arrangement for diplomatic intercourse between our numerous Grand []. This communication states only in general terms the objects of the plan proposed, and I have for this reason found myself unable to give a direct reply. It is easy to perceive how many advantages might arise from the adoption of some system of the kind, if we could succeed in sustaining it in successful operation. The only objection to it which occurs to me, is, that it would be adding one wheel more to the machinery of our government, which can only be maintained permanently, by adhering to its ancient simplicity.

You would certainly feel both pride and pleasure in exchanging representatives with the Grand [] of New York, and our other States, and if the plan shall be deemed practicable in its operation, I would not hesitate to recommend it, subject of course to such limitations and regulations as you might deem proper to adopt for the guidance of your representative. I cannot, however, withhold the expression of an opinion, that the plan may be found too complicated, laborious and uncertain to answer any valuable purpose. The annual appointment of thirty-three representatives at the extremes of our union, of a character upon which we would be willing to rely, would always be found a delicate and difficult task, and it seems to me, would be often totally impracticable. It is not of course expected by the Grand [] of New York that each Grand Lodge will send and *support* a representative in the character of a foreign minister, and any other course must involve the necessity, nine times in ten, of appointing a brother who is unknown to our members—ignorant of our wants—and who owes allegiance to the Grand [] within whose jurisdiction he resides. The communication will, however, be laid before you, and you will take such action thereon, if any, as you may think will best promote the interest of the Fraternity.

I received a communication in May last, from W. S. Browne, who signs his name in the capacity of Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, asking for aid to enable him to carry out the purpose of founding a Masonic Female College in Kentucky, to be styled "Excelsior Collegiate Institute." The letter, together with a circular accompanying the same, will be laid before you. There is no reason to doubt that the person who signs his name W. S. Browne, is a worthy and deserving brother, and it is true beyond all doubt that the object for which he asks the aid of the Masonic Fraternity, is one which should commend itself to our warmest sympathy. There are, however, two objections to our responding to this particular call. The first is, that we have only the name of a man of whom we have never before heard, as a guarantee that any donation we might make would be honestly and judiciously appropriated. If Brother W. S. Browne is entitled to the aid or charity of the Fraternity of the United States, his appeal should have been recommended by the Grand Body of which he appears to be a member. The effect of responding in the way of aid, to unknown names, is to invite imposition and fraud. Another rea-

son why our [] cannot respond to this appeal at the present time, is that they have just entered into existence. They are without funds, without convenient halls in which to perform their labor, in many instances without proper furniture for their [], and really without means sufficient to supply their own necessities, and contribute to the wants of their *own* poor. You will however take such action in the matter as you may deem advisable.

In the month of February last, upon the application of the brethren of St. Paul [], I granted to them a Dispensation for the election of a Master, and for the filling of vacancies which might be created by such an election. The necessity of this action resulted in consequence of the [] having chosen at its annual meeting, a Master who proved to be ineligible. The election took place and I subsequently installed the officers elected.

In May last, I received the petition of several brothers residing in this Territory opposite La Crosse, in the State of Wisconsin, for permission to join the [] at La Crosse. Having satisfied myself that these brethren were too distant from any [] under this jurisdiction to become members thereof, with any advantage to themselves or the [], and the [] at La Crosse being convenient to them, their application was granted.

In June last, I granted a Dispensation for a new [] at Hastings, to be called "Dakota []"—William Lee, W. M., Orrin T. Hayes, S. W., and R. A. Simmons, J. W.

In September following, I granted a Dispensation for a new [] at Red Wing, to be called "Red Wing []"—William Ladd, W. M., William W. Phelps, S. W., and William Lauver, J. W.

In November following, I granted a Dispensation for a new [] at Winona, to be called "Winona []"—Henry D. Huff, W. M., John James, S. W., and O. R. Tucker, J. W.

During the last year I have made an informal visit to St. John's [], at Stillwater; St. Paul [], at St. Paul; Ancient Landmark [], at St. Paul; Cataract Lodge, at St. Anthony, and Hennepin [], at Minneapolis. In the three last named [] I had an opportunity to inspect their work, and it affords me pleasure to be able to bear testimony to its general excellence, and to the promptness and Masonic learning of their officers. The Master was absent at the time of my visit to St. John's [], and I am unable to speak of their Work, but for information upon this, and other subjects connected therewith, I refer you to the report of the Deputy Grand Master, who has under my direction visited the several [] under your jurisdiction, and will submit a report of his doings.

For information upon the subject of your funds, I respectfully refer you to the report of your Treasurer.

Brethren, this is my first official communication to you, and I am compelled to say, that at present at least, it must be my last. The honorable position of Grand Master was accepted by me after repeated refusals, and with a reluctance that you can not well appreciate. I would have rejoiced in the honor under different circumstances, but I had private and public duties which every Mason knows take precedence of Masonic duties, the proper performance of which really required more than all my time. Such is my present situation, and it would be unjust both to myself and you to re-assume a position, the duties of which I have not the time to perform satisfactorily to myself or to you. Permit me, however, to assure you, that there is upon my part no want of interest in the welfare of our Fraternity, and that I shall be at all times ready, to the extent of my power, to co-operate with you in all measures necessary to carry out the main objects of our beloved Institution.

In conclusion, my brethren, allow me to admonish you to adhere always to the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft. I believe no human institution was ever devised, whose rules and laws are so well calculated to withstand the wear and tear of time, the change of government and country, the bigotry of religious creeds, the shock of dissensions and quarrels, and the assault of enemies generally, as that of Ancient Freemasonry. But when once we permit the Ancient Landmarks to be broken down, the adhesive power of our Institution will be lost—the preservative principle destroy-

ed, and we shall find our temple in ruins and our ☐ scattered like chaff before the wind. Remember always your solemn obligation to abide by the laws, rules and regulations of your ☐, and especially by those ancient rules and guides, without which the whole Fraternity, as such, must cease to exist.

On motion, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1856, 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor. R. W. A. T. C. Pierson, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The minutes of yesterday's Proceedings were read and approved.

Brother A. Goodrich offered the followed resolutions, which were adopted.

Resolved, That the address of the M. W. Moses Sherburne, Grand Master of this Grand ☐, as delivered last evening, be spread upon its journals, and published in the report of its Proceedings.

Resolved, That so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to a Supreme or General Grand ☐, be referred to a committee of three, and that said committee report on the morrow.

That so much as refers to dimits be referred to a committee of three.

That so much as relates to the communication sent from M. W. Bro. Joseph D. Evans, of New York, relative to the diplomatic, or representative system, be referred to a committee of three.

That so much as relates to the communication of Brother W. S. Brown, relative to Excelsior College in Kentucky, be referred to a committee of three, and be it further

Resolved, That all subjects contained in said address, not hereinbefore referred, be referred to a committee of three.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master announced the appointment of the following committees on the address of the M. W. Grand Master:

On the subject of a General or Supreme Grand ☐—Brothers A. Goodrich, W. H. Mower, and John H. Stevens.

On the subject of Dimits—Brothers H. N. Setzer, I. P. Wright, and D. M. Coolbaugh.

On the communication from Bro. W. S. Brown, of Kentucky—Brothers I. P. Wright, Thos. Lombard, and D. F. Brawley.

On the communication from M. W. Bro. Joseph D. Evans of New York—Brothers M. W. Getchel, W. H. Mower, and Thos. Lombard.

On the residue of the address—Brothers H. N. Setzer, John H. Stevens, and Wm. H. Mower.

The G. S. announced that there was on his desk, an application from Red Wing ☐, U. D. for charter. On motion the subject was referred to the committee on Work of ☐ under dispensation.

The committee on Work of [] U. D., respectfully report :

That they have had under examination the Proceedings and By-Laws of Dakota [], U. D., and with the exception of a little informality in making up the minutes of Proceedings, the committee approve of the Proceedings and By-Laws, and offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That a charter be issued to Dakota [], No. 7, upon their depositing the fees required by the Constitution of this Grand [].

A. T. C. PIERSON,
THOS. LOMBARD,
MOSES W. GETCHELL, } Committee.

On motion, the above report and resolution was adopted.

On motion, the Grand [] was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock, P. M.

JANUARY 9TH, 1856, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand [] was called from refreshment to labor, R. W.

A. T. C. Pierson, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The committee on Work of [], U. D., respectfully report :

That they have had under examination the application of Red Wing [] U. D., for a charter.

They find that the [] named, has met regularly for instruction, and have practiced in the work of the three Degrees, but have made no Masons.

Your committee are of opinion that it is not necessary for a [] under dispensation to Initiate, Pass or Raise any candidates to entitle it to a charter.

Your committee are further of opinion that Red Wing is a very desirable point for the establishment of a Masonic [], it being a town of some 900 inhabitants, and rapidly increasing in numbers, and no [] within some 30 miles.

Again, your committee, from a personal knowledge of the brethren making application, are satisfied that a charter will be used for the advantage of the Craft, and for those reasons offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That a charter issue to Red Wing [], No. 8, upon their depositing the fees required by the Constitution of this Grand [].

A. T. C. PIERSON,
THOS. LOMBARD,
MOSES W. GETCHELL. } Committee.

On motion, the above report and resolution was adopted.

Brother A. Goodrich offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, It is the opinion of this Grand [] that the Degree of Past Master rightfully belongs to the Master of a [], and without which he cannot efficiently discharge the duties of his office, and

Whereas, Doubts are entertained by some, whether the Master elect of a Subordinate [], can receive said Degree, save in the Grand [], or by dispensation from the Grand Master to one or more Past Masters, known to him as such, and

Whereas, There is nothing in the Book of Constitutions or Ancient Landmarks which have come down to us, showing us any well defined or settled rule upon the subject, therefore be it

Resolved, That the retiring Master from the Chair of any [] who has been formally invested with the Degree of Past Master, may with the assistance of two or more Past Masters, confer said Degree upon his successor in office, in order to qualify him for the same, yet no such Past Master,

or convocation of Past Masters, can confer said Degree in any other case or for any other purpose whatever.

Which on motion were adopted.

Brother D. F. Brawley, W. M., of St. Paul ☐, No. 3, stated that he was instructed by a resolution of his ☐, to pay the arrearages of said ☐ to the Grand ☐ and surrender its charter, and further stated that all demands against said ☐ had been liquidated; and in accordance with said instructions, thereon presented the Charter, Jewels, &c., of St. Paul ☐, No. 3.

On motion the charter was accepted. Brother A. Goodrich alone voting in the negative.

On motion, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1856, 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor, the M. W. Moses Sherburne, Grand Master, presiding.

The minutes of yesterday's Proceedings were read and approved.

The Committee appointed at the Annual Communication of 1854, to revise the Constitution, made the following report:

To the M. W. G. L. of Minnesota:

At the Annual Communication of this Grand ☐ in 1854, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to revise the Constitution of the Grand ☐.

At the Annual Communication of 1855, a partial report was made, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee heretofore appointed to revise the Constitution of this Grand ☐, have leave to print the draft of the same at the expense of this Grand ☐, and to defer their report until the next Annual Communication, and send copies of the draft to all the Subordinate ☐ under this jurisdiction.

In accordance with said resolution, your Committee completed the draft, and caused a sufficient number of copies to be printed and supplied to each member.

Several of the Subordinate ☐ proposed amendments to the printed draft; where the same amendments were proposed by two or more ☐, your committee have adopted them, and herewith present the draft.

A. T. C. PIERSON,	} Committee.
D. F. BRAWLEY,	
H. N. SETZER,	
D. M. COOLBAUGH.	

We, the Grand ☐ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, practicing the Ancient York Rite, in order to form perfect union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for, and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity within our jurisdiction, the blessing of the Masonic privileges, do ordain and establish this

CONSTITUTION.

PART I.—POWERS AND PRIVILEGES.

TITLE FIRST—OF MASONIC GOVERNMENT.

Sec. 1. The government of Free and Accepted Masons is reposed—

1st. In Grand ☐; and

2d. In Subordinate or Particular ☐.

Sec. 2. A Grand ☐ is a body of Masons in whom is inalienably vested the government and superintendence of the Fraternity within its territorial jurisdiction, and is primarily composed of its Grand Officers, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of the several Subordinate ☐ under its jurisdiction. It may also enlarge or diminish its numbers, at its pleasure, by a provision, or change of its Constitution.

Sec. 3. A Subordinate or Particular ☐ consists of a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior and Junior Deacon, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a Warrant held under the Grand ☐ having lawful jurisdiction over it, and at the place designated in the Warrant, or by the Grand ☐.

TITLE SECOND—OF MASONIC LAWS.

Sec. 4. The action of Freemasons in their Grand or Subordinate ☐, or in their individual character, is regulated and controlled—

1st. By Ancient Landmarks.

2d. By written Constitutions and General Regulations; and

3d. By Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts and Resolutions, having the force of General Regulations.

Sec. 5. The Ancient Landmarks are those principles of Masonic government and polity, which are among the parts of Masonic law, or rule of government that may never be altered or disturbed, as for instance, the universal language of Masons, and those peculiar marks of distinction by which we are separated from the profane, and by which we are enabled to prove ourselves as the "sons of light."

Sec. 6. Constitutions are those written compacts, or laws adopted by Freemasons for the government of a Grand ☐, and its Subordinate ☐, and their members, including General Regulations that are constitutionally adopted, and intended to be permanent in their character.

Sec. 7. General Regulations, Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts, and Resolutions, are those Masonic Rules of action, adopted by competent authority, for local or temporary purposes, admitting of change at convenience, and not embraced in Ancient Landmarks, or Constitutions, and are frequently termed By-Laws.

Sec. 8. The following are enumerated as among the Ancient Constitutions, having the force of Ancient Landmarks of the Fraternity, having as such been generally received and acknowledged by Masons.

1st. That belief in the Supreme Being, "the Great Architect of the Universe," who will punish vice and reward virtue, is an indispensable prerequisite to admission to Masonry.

2d. That the moral law which inculcates charity and probity, industry and sobriety, and obedience to law and civil government, is the rule and guide of every Mason, and to which strict conformity is required.

3d. That obedience to the Masonic law and authority being voluntarily assumed, is of perpetual obligation.

4th. That the rites and ceremonies (which include the unwritten language) of the true system of the Ancient York Rite, and which constitute

a part of the body of Masonry, are immutable, and that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations therein.

5th. That contentions and lawsuits between brethren are contrary to the laws and regulations of Masonry.

6th. That charity is the right of a Mason, his widow and orphans, when poor and destitute, to demand, and the duty of his prosperous brother to bestow.

7th. That Masonic instruction is like charity, a reciprocal right and duty of Masons.

8th. That the right to visit Masonically is an absolute right, and the duty of Masons.

9th. That men made Masons, must be of mature age, free-born, of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, and no eunuch.

10th. That the Grand Master may make Masons at sight, and may grant a Dispensation to a ☐ for the same purpose, but in all other cases a candidate must be proposed in open ☐, at a stated meeting, and can only be accepted at a stated meeting following, by the scrutiny of secret ballot, and an unanimous vote, and must pay a fixed price before admission.

11th. It is the duty of every Mason to be a contributing member of some ☐.

12th. That a Mason who is not a member of any ☐ is still subject to the disciplinary power of Masonry.

13th. That the Master and Wardens of every Warranted ☐, are of right and inalienably representatives in, and members of the Grand ☐.

14th. That no one can be elected Master of a Warranted ☐ (except at its first election,) but a Master Mason who shall have served as a Warden.

15th. That every Mason must be tried by his peers, hence the Master cannot be tried by his ☐.

16th. That no appeal to the ☐ can be taken from the decision of the Master, or the Wardens occupying the chair in his absence.

17th. That Masonic intercourse with a clandestine or expelled Mason, is a breach of duty and an offence against Masonic law.

18th. That a restoration to the privileges of Masonry by the Grand ☐ does not restore to membership in the Subordinate ☐.

19th. That a failure to meet by a ☐ for one year, is cause for the forfeiture of its Warrant.

20th. That it is the duty as well as the right of every Warranted ☐ to be represented in the Grand ☐ at its Communications.

21st. That a Grand ☐ has supreme and exclusive jurisdiction within its territorial limits, over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry.

22d. That no appeal lies from the decision of the Grand Master in the chair, or his Deputy, or Warden, occupying the chair in his absence.

23d. That the office of Grand Master is always elective, and should be filled annually by the Grand ☐.

24th. That a Grand ☐ composed of its Officers and Representatives, must meet at least once in each year, to consult and act concerning the interests of the Fraternity in its jurisdiction.

25th. That all officers of Grand or Subordinate ☐ must be Master Masons.

26th. That no subject of a sectarian or political character can be discussed in a ☐, and any Mason proposing such a subject, renders himself liable to the disciplinary action of the ☐.

TITLE THIRD—OF GRAND LODGES.

Sec. 9. The powers and privileges of Grand ☐ are—

1st. Executive.

2d. Legislative; and

3d. Judicial.

The exercise of these powers and privileges is defined in particular Constitutions and General Regulations, which it has an inalienable right to frame and adopt, at its convenience, and to amend, alter, add to, or repeal, at its pleasure, under the limitations therein imposed, and are final and conclusive, upon all parties concerned, until altered or reversed by the Grand ☐. But nothing can be adopted in derogation of the Ancient

Landmarks; nor can any legislative act, or general regulation be passed, affecting the interest of the whole Fraternity, except at a stated Annual Communication.

Sec. 10. All the executive powers of a Grand □, when not in session, are reposed in its Grand Master.

Sec. 11. The legislative powers of a Grand □ extend to every case of legislation, not delegated or reserved to Subordinate □.

Sec. 12. The judicial powers of a Grand □ are of two kinds:

1st. Original—embracing all matters of controversy which may arise between any of the Subordinate □ under its jurisdiction, or the members of different □, and the enforcement of discipline upon its own members, and the □ under its jurisdiction, and upon individual Masons; and
2nd. Appellate—embracing all matters of controversy and discipline, proper for Masonic investigation, arising in any Subordinate □, and over which it has not original jurisdiction.

Sec. 13. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative, or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand □, are inherent in, and reserved to it as the supreme governing body.

TITLE FOURTH—OF SUBORDINATE □.

Sec. 14. The powers and privileges of a Subordinate or Particular □ are such as are defined in its warrant, and by the Constitution of the Grand □ granting the same, and the Ancient Landmarks and General Regulations, and are divided into—

1st. Executive—in the direction and performance of its Work under the control of its Master, and in all other matters in aid of the Master, who has the primary executive power of a □.

2d. Legislative—embracing all matters relating to its internal concerns, not in derogation of the Ancient Landmarks, the Constitution, and General Regulations of the Grand □ and its own particular By-Laws; and

3d. Judicial—embracing the exercise of discipline, and settlement of controversies between and over all its members, (except the Master,) and over all Masons, and non-affiliated brethren within its jurisdiction, subject to an appeal to the Grand □.

Sec. 15. □ shall take precedence according to the seniority of their respective warrants.

Sec. 16. A □ can only be organized by—

1st. The Dispensation of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

2d. The Warrant of the Grand □ having jurisdiction; and in either case only upon the application of not less than seven regular Master Masons.

Sec. 17. A □ can only be dissolved—

1st. By act of the Grand □, whereby its Warrant is forfeited.

2d. By voluntary surrender of its Warrant. But no □ can surrender its Warrant, so long as seven regular Master Masons, including the present or a Past Master, or a present or a former Warden, are desirous of retaining it.

Sec. 18. The acts by which a Warrant may be forfeited, are—

1st. Contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or Grand □.

2d. Departure from the original plan of Masonry and Ancient Landmarks.

3d. Disobedience to the Constitutions; or

4th. Ceasing to meet for one year.

The surrender or forfeiture of a Warrant, when declared by the Grand □; or the expiration of the term for which a Dispensation had been issued, (unless a charter or Warrant is granted by the Grand □,) or the withdrawing of the same by the Grand Master, shall be conclusive upon the □ and its members, and carries with it all the property of the □, which becomes the property of the Grand □, and must, on demand, be surrendered by the last Master, or whoever has it in custody, to the Grand □, or its authorized agent.

Sec. 19. No Warrant of a □ can be forfeited except upon charges regularly made in the Grand □, at its Annual Communication, of which due notice shall be given the □, and an opportunity of being heard in

defence ; but it may be suspended by the Grand ☐, or Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, at any time upon proper cause shown, which suspension shall not extend beyond the next Annual Communication.

Sec. 20. A ☐ may not remove its place of meeting from the city, town, or village named in its warrant ; nor from one place to another in the same city, town, or village, except by a concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present, at a stated meeting or at a meeting to be appointed, for which a summons shall be issued stating its object, which summons must be served at least ten days previous to such meeting, and such removal from the city, town, or village, must receive the sanction of the Grand ☐, or Grand Master, previous thereto.

Sec. 21. A ☐ has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, conformable to its Grand ☐ Constitutions and the principles of Masonry ; and any By-Law inconsistent therewith, is absolutely void.

Sec. 22. A ☐ has power to make but five new brethren at the same time, without a dispensation from the Grand Master, nor shall the second or third Degree be conferred until the candidate has proved his proficiency in the preceding Degree by a satisfactory examination in open ☐, except by dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy.

Sec. 23. A ☐ may not initiate any person without due inquiry into his qualifications ; nor shall any visitor be admitted without satisfactory proof that he is in good standing in his ☐, or was in the last ☐ of which he was a member ; nor shall any non-affiliated Mason be permitted to visit any one ☐ in this jurisdiction more than three times while he remains thus non-affiliated, who is a permanent resident within the jurisdiction of this Grand ☐.

Sec. 24. The Master, Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary, of Subordinate or Particular ☐, must be elective ; other offices may be filled as the By-Laws of said ☐ may prescribe. All elective officers must be chosen annually by ballot, and by a majority of votes. All appointed officers must be chosen immediately after the installation of the Master. All officers should, if practicable, be installed on or before the next Stated Communication after they shall have been chosen.

Sec. 25. A ☐ may fill vacancies in office, except those of Master and Wardens, (as their By-Laws may prescribe,) at any Stated Communication, upon full notice to the members.

Sec. 26. Every member of a ☐ in good standing, is entitled to one vote, and every voter is eligible to any office in the ☐, except that of Master. None but Master Masons, and those who have signed the By-Laws, can be members of a Subordinate or Particular ☐.

Sec. 27. The ballots for candidates or membership is strictly and inviolably secret, and to elect must be unanimous.

Sec. 28. No ☐ can receive, refer, or act upon a petition for initiation or membership, or ballot for initiates, officers or membership, or adopt any resolution affecting the By-Laws of the ☐ at any other than a Stated Communication. Every ☐ should meet at least once in every month for dispatch of business.

Sec. 29. No ☐ can, at a special meeting, alter or expunge any part of the Proceedings of a stated one.

Sec. 30. In the absence of, vacancy in the office, or inability of the Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens will, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes. In the absence of all three of the above named officers, the ☐ may be opened by one of its Past Masters.

Sec. 31. No ☐ shall confer the Degrees for a less sum than fifteen dollars ; nor upon credit, or receive a promissory note therefor in lieu of money, nor distribute its funds among its members, nor introduce ardent spirits within its ☐ room, or any room adjoining, or meet for Masonic labors, other than deeds of charity, on the Sabbath, or first day of the week.

Sec. 32. A ☐ under dispensation is but a temporary and inchoate body, and is not entitled to representation in the Grand ☐, and those who work it do not forfeit their membership thereby in any other ☐ while it so continues, but such membership is thereby suspended.

TITLE FIFTH—OF PENALTIES.

Sec. 33. The penalties imposed by Masonic law, are :

1st. Reprimand, which may be done privately or in open ☐, by the Master.

2d. Suspension, which is either limited or indefinite ; and

3d. Expulsion, which always implies a termination, not only of his Masonic intercourse and connection with the body inflicting it, but from the Masonic Fraternity, unless an appeal be made.

Sec. 34. Suspension applies to ☐ as well as individuals, and when inflicted upon a ☐, it suspends all its members, unless expressly excepted. Suspension and expulsion imply interdiction of all Masonic intercourse with the delinquents, while in force.

Sec. 35. Suspension is only inflicted when the offence is against some temporary regulation of the Fraternity ; expulsion follows a gross violation of the moral law, or the fundamental principles of Masonry, or attempts against any part of the framework of its government. Neither shall be published to any but Masons, except by permission of the Grand ☐ or Grand Master.

Sec. 36. A ☐ may pronounce sentence of indefinite suspension or expulsion, which shall be final unless appealed from within six months of the knowledge of the sentence, and reversed or modified on such appeal by the Grand ☐. But the Grand ☐ may, on application, after one year from the sentence, restore any one suspended or expelled by a ☐ or Grand ☐, in its discretion.

Sec. 37. Arrears for one year's dues may subject a member to be stricken from the roll of his ☐ ; and such fact shall be stated in the annual return, and the ☐ thereafter shall not be liable to the Grand ☐ for such dues, and the members shall thereupon become non-affiliated, but no act of expulsion shall be pronounced thereon for non-payment of dues only.

Sec. 38. Any poor brother unable to pay the adjoining fee, may be received without such fee by any ☐, as an honorary member thereof, by the unanimous vote of the brethren present, after one month's previous notice, and the ☐ may excuse such brother from the payment of any dues, and shall not be liable to the Grand ☐ for such fees or dues.

Sec. 39. It being the duty of every Mason to belong to a ☐, and contribute to its funds, therefore, any Mason who does not contribute to the funds or belong to some ☐, shall not be entitled to join in processions, or receive assistance, or Masonic burial.

TITLE SIXTH—OF TRIALS AND ITS INCIDENTS.

Sec. 40. All charges for unmasonic conduct, committed while the Craft is at labor, shall be preferred by the Senior Warden, and all charges for such conduct while the Craft is at refreshment, (including the time intervening between the various meetings of the ☐) shall be preferred by the Junior Warden ; provided, that in case of the Wardens being unable to act, the Worshipful Master may appoint any other brother Master Mason member of the ☐ before which the trial is to take place, to prefer such charges, and act on the part of the ☐.

Sec. 41. Any brother feeling himself aggrieved shall request the proper Warden of his ☐ to prefer charges against the brother injuring him, and in case the Warden should refuse to act, the brother aggrieved has full authority to prefer such charges himself ; should the accused, however, be acquitted, he may prefer a charge against his accuser for acting maliciously.

Sec. 42. When two brethren reside within the jurisdiction of different ☐ the brother aggrieved shall first apply to the Warden of the ☐ to which the offending brother is amenable, and in case of that officer refusing to act, he may apply to his own ☐, and that ☐ may by resolution, request the proper officer of the sister ☐ to prefer the charges against the offending brother, and in case of such a resolution, duly certified by the Worshipful Master and Secretary, being handed to the presiding officer of a sister ☐, it shall be his duty to take notice of the same and govern himself accordingly.

Sec. 43. All charges proper to be written, shall be made in writing, and a copy of the same made out by the Secretary, together with a summons stating the time of trial, shall be served at the usual place of abode at least ten days previous to the day appointed for trial.

Sec. 44. At the request of either party, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a committee of at least three Master Masons, members of the ☐, empowering them to take such profane or legal testimony as may be brought before them; and such testimony shall be in the form of an affidavit sworn to or affirmed, before a legally qualified Justice of the Peace. And the committee shall give due notice to both parties, of the time and place of taking such testimony.

Sec. 45. All Masonic testimony shall be given in open ☐, at the time of the trial, and a Mason shall testify upon his honor as such. The testimony of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft, shall be taken in a ☐ corresponding with the rank held by the witness, when, after receiving such testimony, the inferior ☐ shall be closed, and a ☐ of Master Masons re-opened.

Sec. 46. The accused shall be permitted to engage a brother Master Mason to defend him, to answer the complaint, produce, and cross-examine witnesses, obtain a reasonable delay, by showing a sufficient cause for the same, and either by himself or counsel, address the ☐ after the closing of the testimony, but never shall offensive allusions to, or insinuations against, the ☐ or a brother, be permitted, and the Worshipful Master shall order the brother so offending to leave the ☐, and the Senior Warden may bring charges against such brother for unmasonic conduct.

Sec. 47. The accused cannot vote on his own case; but no other member of the ☐ present can be excused from voting; and no ☐ shall proceed to trial unless a majority of the members of such ☐ be present; but the Worshipful Master may issue his summons, and call off, from day to day, until the required number appear.

Sec. 48. In pronouncing upon the guilt or innocence of an accused brother, the roll of the ☐ shall be called, beginning with the youngest brother and ending with the Worshipful Master, and every brother, as his name is called, shall rise, salute the Master, and pronounce his judgment, using the following form:

Upon the honor of a Mason, I pronounce Bro. ——— guilty (or not guilty as the case may be,) of unmasonic conduct.

Sec. 49. An accused brother should be judged according to the evidence; but since no brother can pronounce judgment upon his honor, contrary to his own conviction, it becomes the duty of every one, although perhaps not called upon, to lay before the ☐ such facts in regard to the case under consideration, as he may be cognizant of, but such testimony shall be given in the presence of the accused. Any brother failing to make known any facts pertinent to the question before the ☐, while sitting in judgment on a case, is amenable to all the penalties of Masonic discipline.

Sec. 50. If the Worshipful Master shall be called to appear as a witness in any case, the Senior Warden shall preside, and during the examination of the Worshipful Master, shall discharge the Master's duties.

Sec. 51. In no case shall the accused be present when judgment is pronounced, and the revealing of any transaction of the ☐, with regard to voting in the case under consideration, shall be sufficient cause for expulsion.

Sec. 52. No visiting brother, unless a witness, or as counsel for the accused, shall be admitted to the ☐ while the trial is in progress, and neither counsel or witnesses, unless members of the ☐, shall remain within during voting.

Sec. 53. After a brother has been found guilty, the next question shall be that of punishment, beginning with the greatest, and on this question the ballot may be used, under the direction of the Worshipful Master, provided that a two-third vote shall be required to inflict the penalty of expulsion.

Sec. 54. Charges against the Master of a ☐ can only be presented to the Grand ☐, while he continues in office, or within one year thereafter.

TITLE SEVENTH—OF CHARITY.

Sec. 55. Every brother in good standing, and the wives, widows, and minor children of such, have a claim to charitable relief from the funds of the Grand [], or any of its Subordinates, upon presenting satisfactory evidence of their Masonic character or relations, and that they are in necessitous circumstances.

Sec. 56. When such claim shall be made upon the funds of the Grand [] when in session, it shall be referred to the Grand Stewards and Grand Treasurer, who shall report thereon to the Grand [] at the same session.

Sec. 57. When such claim shall be made in the recess, it shall be presented to the Grand Master, his Deputy, the Grand Wardens, or the Grand Secretary, who shall select three brethren, Past Masters, Master, or Wardens of [], who shall be a committee to examine and report thereon: and the Grand Treasurer shall pay any draft upon him for such relief made by them, and countersigned by the Grand Officer appointing them, not exceeding \$50 for any one object.

TITLE EIGHTH—OF GRAND [] OFFICERS.

Sec. 58. The Officers of a Grand [] are elected or appointed, and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors are chosen and installed.

Sec. 59. The elective officers of a Grand [], are—the Grand Master, (whose style is Most Worshipful,) Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary (the style of all whom is Right Worshipful.)

Sec. 60. The appointed officers of a Grand [] are, a Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Stewards, Senior and Junior Grand Deacons, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, (the style of all whom is Worshipful.)

Sec. 61. Elective officers of the Grand [] must be chosen at its Annual Communication, by ballot, and by a majority of votes. Appointed officers are selected by the Grand Master. It may have such additional officers as its necessities or objects require, to be provided for by a general regulation.

Sec. 62. Installation of the officers of the Grand [] must take place during the Annual Communication at which they are selected; and vacancies may be filled by temporary appointment from the Grand Master till the next annual election.

TITLE NINTH—DUTIES AND POWERS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Sec. 63. The Most Worshipful Grand Master has power to—

1st. Convene any [] within the jurisdiction, to preside therein; to inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to Masonic rules.

2d. To require the attendance of any Grand Officer in his visitations to Subordinate [], and information respecting the duties of their offices.

3d. To make Masons at sight; and may by written Dispensation delegate this power to a [].

4th. To convene the Grand [], by giving twenty days' notice.

5th. To suspend a [], or a brother, until the next meeting of the Grand [], when he shall present the reasons for such suspension in writing.

6th. To grant Dispensations for new [], (when the Grand [] is not in session,) or for a [] to change its place of meeting, (in accordance with section 20;) or for public processions or assemblies; or for the election of Master or Wardens of a Subordinate [].

7th. To exercise all such other powers as are warranted or required of him by the Ancient Regulations, or Customs of the Craft: provided always, that he shall have no power to suspend the operation of any By-Law of this Grand [].

The duties of Grand Master are—

1st. To preside at all the meetings of the Grand [].

2d. To appoint officers and committees of this Grand [] not otherwise provided for.

3d. To lay before the Grand ☐, on the first day of their Annual Communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a written message, therein detailing an account of his official acts during the recess, the state and condition of Masonry in the jurisdiction, and recommend to the Grand ☐ such measures as he may deem expedient and necessary.

4th. To give the casting vote in the Grand ☐ whenever on any question there shall be an equal number of votes.

5th. To visit each Subordinate ☐ in the jurisdiction at least once in the year.

6th. To exercise a supervisory control over the Grand Officers, instruct them in their various duties, and see that the same are performed.

Sec. 64. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master's powers and duties are—

1st. He must attend the meetings of the Grand ☐, and render the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him.

2d. In case of the death or permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, he may exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of Grand Master until the next meeting of the Grand ☐.

3d. In the temporary absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction, he may, with the consent of the Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, call a meeting of the Grand ☐, and exercise such other powers and duties appertaining to the office of Grand Master, that the interest of the Craft may in their judgment demand.

Sec. 65. The Grand Wardens shall assist the Grand Master in the Grand ☐, and attend him in the Grand Visitations when required, and discharge such other duties as appertain to their office. In the absence of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Warden shall preside; and in his absence, the Junior Warden shall preside.

Sec. 66. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary—

1st. To record the Proceedings of the Grand ☐.

2d. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand ☐, and pay over the same without delay to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

3d. To keep a register in which to enter all Warrants, Dispensations or Certificates, granted by the Grand ☐, Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

4th. To keep a register of all the Subordinate ☐ and their members, with a permanent number prefixed to each name, together with the age, occupation, residence, date of initiation, passing, raising, admission, withdrawal, expulsion, suspension, restoration, or death, returned for registry.

5th. To receive, file, and safely keep, all papers and documents of the Grand ☐.

6th. To sign and certify all instruments of the Grand ☐, and shall have the custody of the Seal of the Grand ☐.

7th. To report annually to the Grand ☐ the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received, and also the ☐ that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members and dues, and such general information as to the state of the ☐, as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand ☐.

8th. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand ☐, under the direction of the Grand Master, in a Masonic manner.

9th. To attend, with all necessary writings under his control, at all meetings of the Grand ☐, on the requisition of the Grand Master; and also to attend upon the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, on Masonic business, when required.

10th. To transmit to the several Grand ☐ in correspondence with this Grand ☐, a certificate of the election of Grand Officers immediately thereafter, containing their signatures respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the Seal of the Grand ☐, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand ☐.

Sec. 67. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer—

1st. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities, and vouchers of the Grand ☐.

2d. To pay all orders duly drawn under general regulations, or special directions of the Grand ☐.

3d. To attend on the Grand ☐ or its Presiding Officer when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office, and when required, the meeting of any committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand ☐.

4th. To report annually to the Grand ☐ the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received, and to whom paid, and the amount of securities in his hands for funds invested by the Trustees.

5th. To execute and file with the Grand Secretary an official bond, with sureties, to be approved by the Trustees, conditioned on the faithful performance of his duties as Grand Treasurer.

6th. To pay and deliver, at the expiration of his term, to his successor in office, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand ☐, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writing, and property of the Grand ☐ under his control, with all proper assignments, when necessary.

Sec. 68. It shall be the duty of the Grand Chaplain to attend the Grand ☐, and to perform the religious services.

Sec. 69. It shall be the duty of the Grand Marshal—

1st. To proclaim the Grand Officers at their installation.

2d. To introduce the Representatives of Foreign Grand ☐, and visiting brethren of distinction; and

3d. To conduct the processions of the Grand ☐.

Sec. 70. It shall be the duty of the Grand Standard Bearer to carry the Grand Banner of the Order in processions and public ceremonies.

Sec. 71. It shall be the duty of the Grand Sword Bearer—

1st. To carry the Sword in processions, and

2d. To perform such other duties as by ancient usage pertain to his office.

Sec. 72. It shall be the duty of the Grand Stewards—

1st. To examine into all applications made for charity to the Grand ☐.

2d. To have immediate superintendence in the provisions to be made for festivals.

Sec. 73. It shall be the duty of the Grand Deacons to assist within the body of the Grand ☐ in such duties as by usage appertain to their office.

Sec. 74. It shall be the duty of the Grand Pursuivant—

1st. To communicate with the Grand Tyler, and announce all applicants for admission by their names, Masonic address, and connection.

2d. To take charge of the jewels and clothing under the direction of the Grand officers.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand ☐, and at other times, upon the requisition of the Grand Master or presiding officer.

Sec. 75. It shall be the duty of the Grand Tyler—

1st. To guard the door of the Grand ☐ on the outside; to report all persons claiming admission; to see that none enter unless duly authorized and properly clothed.

2d. To carry summons, and perform all the customary services pertaining to his office.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand ☐, and at other times upon the requisition of the Grand Master or presiding officer.

Sec. 76. The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, shall each receive such compensation for their services as the Grand ☐ shall direct.

Sec. 77. No amendments to this Constitution shall be made, or have effect, until it shall have been proposed in the Grand ☐, at its Annual Communication, and concurred in by two-thirds of the members present. Said amendments shall then be printed, with the Proceedings of the Grand ☐, and sent to all the ☐ under the jurisdiction; and if approved by two-thirds of the members at the next Annual Communication, it shall then be in full force and effect.

PART II.—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

TITLE FIRST—OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND ☐ OF MINNESOTA.

Sec. 78. The style of this Grand ☐ shall be "The Most Worshipful Grand ☐ of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota."

Sec. 79. This Grand ☐ shall be composed of the Grand Officers mentioned in Sections 59 and 60 of this Constitution; and all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Past Masters of Subordinate ☐ within this jurisdiction, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of all ☐ subordinate to this Grand ☐. A proxy must have arrived to the rank of Warden.

Sec. 80. Every officer and member of the Grand ☐ must be a member of a Subordinate ☐ within the jurisdiction.

Sec. 81. The representatives of two-thirds of the ☐, convened on due notice, shall be indispensably necessary to open or transact business in the Grand ☐.

Sec. 82. The Grand ☐ shall meet annually in the city of St. Paul, on the first Monday in January, at which meeting the Grand Officers shall be selected and installed, and all matters affecting the Craft in this jurisdiction shall be considered and acted upon. Special Communications may be held at any other time, on the requisition of the Grand Master; but no business of legislation shall be transacted, or change of the Constitutions, regulations, or rules of government of the Grand ☐ or Craft, shall be made, except at the Grand Annual Communication.

Sec. 83. Each ☐ represented either by their officers or their proxies, shall be entitled to three votes. If but two officers are present, and the third not represented by proxy, the officer highest in rank may have two votes.

Sec. 84. None but members of the Grand ☐ (past or present officers of other Grand ☐ excepted,) shall be present at the opening of the same, or during an election.

Sec. 85. No brother shall be admitted into the Grand ☐ but the members thereof, except by permission of the Grand ☐. No brother residing in the vicinity of a ☐, and not a member of some ☐, shall be permitted to visit the Grand ☐, except by special invitation.

Sec. 86. Each member of the Grand ☐ shall appear therein with his proper clothing and Jewel.

Sec. 87. The Jewels of the Grand ☐ shall be yellow, the collars and aprons of purple velvet. The Jewels of the officers of Subordinate ☐ to be of silver, the color of their collars blue, and of aprons white, trimmed with blue.

Sec. 88. All members of the Grand ☐ shall be entitled to one vote, except the appointed officers, who may not vote for the election of officers; but the Grand Master has two votes.

TITLE SECOND—OF REVENUE AND FUNDS.

Sec. 89. The revenue of this Grand ☐ shall be derived from the following sources:

For every charter or warrant,.....	\$45 00
For every dispensation for a new <input type="checkbox"/> ,.....	20 00
And if a charter or warrant be afterwards granted,.....	25 00
For every dispensation to confer the three degrees in one evening, ..	5 00
For every Grand <input type="checkbox"/> diploma.....	1 50
For every degree conferred by a <input type="checkbox"/>	1 00
Every <input type="checkbox"/> shall pay for each of its members of one year's standing, ..	50
For the adjoining of every Master Mason,.....	50
For the registry fee of every member, or Mason made,.....	10

Sec. 90. Every ☐ shall be accountable for the dues of its members. ☐ may make By-Laws exempting its Secretary, Chaplain and Tyler from the payment of dues; in such cases the ☐ shall be exempt from liability to the Grand ☐ for such dues.

Sec. 91. The management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, said Board to be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and Grand Treasurer, and three brethren Master Masons, who may, or may not, be selected from the members of the Grand ☐. The three brethren, not of the Grand officers above named, shall be elected by the Grand ☐, and shall hold their offices for three years.

Sec. 92. All funds invested for the Grand ☐ shall stand in the corporate name of the Grand ☐. The Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the security and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall not have the power to transfer, sell, or dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested fund without a vote of the Grand ☐ at the Annual Communication.

TITLE THIRD—OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sec. 93. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Grand Master after his installation in each year:

- 1st. A committee of three, to examine and report upon the Returns of ☐.
- 2d. A committee of three upon Work of ☐ under Dispensation.
- 3d. A committee of three to examine the books, vouchers, &c., of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary.
- 4th. A committee of two to examine visiting brethren.
- 5th. A committee of five on appeals and Grievances.
- 6th. A committee of three on Foreign Correspondence.
- 7th. A committee of three on unfinished business. Each of the above committees to report at the next Annual Communication, before the election of Grand Officers.
- 8th. A committee of three on Ancient Landmarks.

TITLE FOURTH—MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

Sec. 94. All elections in this Grand ☐ shall be by ballot.

Sec. 95. Past Masters, to be recognized by this Grand ☐ as such, are those who have been duly elected, installed, and have presided over a ☐ one year within this jurisdiction. Provided, however, that this provision shall not affect the standing of such brethren as have been recognized as Past Masters by this Grand ☐ at its previous Communications.

Sec. 96. No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, initiated or passed in any ☐ within the United States, shall be passed or raised in any ☐ under this jurisdiction, other than that in which he was initiated, unless he shall procure a recommendation from the ☐ in which he was initiated. Provided said ☐ still continues in existence.

Sec. 97. No one shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior or Junior Grand Wardens, but Past Masters. Nor can the Grand Master be at the same time Master of a Subordinate ☐.

Sec. 98. In all elections, a majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary to constitute a choice.

Sec. 99. The Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, shall, at the opening of the session of the Grand ☐, prepare a list of all the members of the Grand ☐, with the number of votes affixed to which each member is entitled.

Sec. 100. No ☐ shall be entitled to representation in this Grand ☐ that is in arrears for two years; but shall stand suspended until such time as it shall discharge such arrearage. The Grand Secretary shall notify such ☐, and if it does not appear by its representatives at the next Annual Communication thereafter, and discharge such arrearage, said ☐ shall be stricken from the roll of ☐.

Sec. 101. The General Regulations or By-Laws of this Grand ☐ may be amended at any Annual Communication, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Sec. 102. All former Constitutions or Regulations of this Grand ☐ are hereby repealed.

On motion the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

On motion, the Grand ☐ proceeded to consider section by section the draft of the Constitution reported by the committee.

On motion, further consideration thereof was postponed until the afternoon session.

The Grand Secretary presented a petition from the following named Master Masons, known to him as worthy brethren, praying for a charter to open a ☐ in St. Paul, by the name of St. Paul ☐: C. S. Cave, B. W. Brunson, G. A. Camp, D. W. C. Dunwell, B. Presley, D. F. Brawley, C. L. Willis, Lot Moffet, John B. Spencer, Wm. P. Murray, Wm. Hartshorn, Wm. H. Nobles, C. V. P. Lull, Thos. Burton.

On motion, the above petition was referred to a select committee of three.

Ordered, that Bros. Mower, Stevens, and Wright be said committee.

On motion, the Grand ☐ was called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock, P. M.

JANUARY 10, 1856, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand ☐ was called from refreshment to labor, the M. W. Moses Sherburne, Grand Master, presiding.

The consideration of the revised Constitution was resumed, and after some time thus passed,

On motion, the further consideration of the same was postponed until to-morrow morning.

The committee to whom was referred the application of Brother C. S. Cave and others, reported as follows:

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota:

The Committee to whom was referred the application of various brethren for a charter for a new ☐ to be established in St. Paul, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report. They find that most of the petitioners were members of the late St. Paul ☐, No. 3, including all its Past Masters; that among them are a number of brethren sufficiently skilled in the Royal Art to work a ☐ successfully, and believing that the establishment of a ☐ in lower town would advance the interests of Masonry in this jurisdiction, would respectfully recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That a charter be granted for the establishment of a new ☐ in St. Paul, to be named and known as St. Paul ☐, No. 3, and that the jewels and furniture of the late St. Paul ☐ be donated to the new ☐, they paying the usual fee.

WM. H. MOWER,
JOHN H. STEVENS, } Committee.
L. P. WRIGHT.

On motion, the report was accepted, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Mas-

ter's address as relates to diplomatic intercourse between Grand [] , respectfully report :

That they have had that subject under consideration, and although we feel the necessity of a closer union and a freer exchange of opinion between Grand [] , yet as no definite plan has been proposed, we recommend that no action be taken upon the subject by this Grand [] at this Communication.

WM. H. MOWER,
THOS. LOMBARD,
MOSES W. GETCHELL. } Committee.

On motion the above report was adopted.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to an application from Brother Brown of Kentucky, for assistance to erect a Masonic Female College, would respectfully report :

That they have had the same under advisement.

While they would willingly contribute to a Masonic charity of that character, yet they are compelled to report, recommending no action on the part of this Grand [] , for reasons so ably set forth in the address of the M. : W. : Grand Master.

I. P. WRIGHT,
THOS. LOMBARD. } Committee.

On motion the above report was adopted.

Brother Getchell offered a resolution relative to the pay of representatives to this Grand [] , which, on motion was referred to a select committee of three.

Ordered that Brothers Getchell, Wright, and Bassett, be said committee.

The hour having arrived for the election of Grand Officers as per resolution adopted on Tuesday, the following brethren were each unanimously elected to the offices named, for the ensuing year.

M. : W. : A. T. C. PIERSON, of St. Paul, Grand Master.

R. : W. : H. N. SETZER, of Stillwater, Deputy Grand Master.

W. : THOS. LOMBARD, of Shakopee, Senior Grand Warden.

W. : E. A. HODSPON, of Minneapolis, Junior Grand Warden.

On motion the Grand [] was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11th, 1856, 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand [] was called from refreshment to labor.

The M. : W. : Moses Sherburne, Grand Master, presiding.

The minutes of yesterday's Proceedings were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the G. : M. : address as related to a Confederation of Grand [] , made the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

To the M. : W. : G. : L. : of Minnesota :

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address, relative to a confederation of Grand [] , have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully report. That for the able and cogent

reasons set forth in the address, the plan for a confederation as proposed, is in our opinion entirely impracticable.

Your committee would further report, that in their opinion there exists an urgent necessity for the establishment in the United States of a General Grand Body (□) to whom can be referred for adjudication, all differences that may arise between Grand □, and such other questions as the good of Masonry demands should be decided by general authority. Your committee would suggest that such body be composed of one delegate chosen by each Grand □, whose actual expenses should be paid by the Grand □ he may represent. Said body to meet bi or tri-annually.

WM. H. MOWER, } Committee.
JOHN H. STEVENS. }

The committee to whom was referred such portions of the Grand Master's address not referred to other committees, reported as follows, which report, on motion, was unanimously adopted :

To the M.: W.: G.: L.: of Minnesota :

The committee to whom was referred such portions of the Grand Master's address as had not been referred to other committees, would respectfully report :

That they have had the address under consideration, but for want of time have not been able to give it that attention which its merits demand, but they would urge upon the Craft within our jurisdiction to give it a careful perusal—nay, study it, as it contains suggestions with which every Mason should be familiar, and precepts which, if practiced, would much advance the standing of the Craft in Minnesota.

JOHN H. STEVENS, } Committee.
H. N. SETZER, }
WM. H. MOWER. }

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Brother Getchell relative to the pay of representatives to this Grand □, beg leave to offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Senior Representative from each □ shall be, and hereby is entitled to receive from this Grand □ his traveling expenses at the rates established by the proprietors of public conveyances, which he shall take in coming directly from his □ to the place of meeting and returning thereto, and also three dollars for each day's attendance on the Grand □ while in session ; Provided, however, if he represent more than one □, he shall only receive pay for one □, nor more than the amount of dues paid by said □, nor shall he receive any pay if he absent himself before the close of the Communication. Sickness of, or calamity to himself or family excepted.

MOSES W. GETCHELL, } Committee.
I. P. WRIGHT. }

On motion the above resolution was adopted.

The Grand □ then proceeded to consider the revised Constitution, and after due deliberation thereon, on motion, the revised Constitution as reported, was unanimously adopted.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the W.: M.: of each □ subordinate to this Grand □, at the next stated meeting after he shall receive the printed copies of the proposed Constitution, to cause the same to be read and acted upon by his □, and that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of such □ to immediately notify the R.: W.: Grand Secretary of the result of such action, and when it shall have been proved to the satis-

faction of the Grand Master that two-thirds of the ☐ subordinate to this Grand ☐, have approved of the said Constitution, he may by his proclamation declare the same to be in full force and effect.

REPORT OF GRAND TREASURER.

John H. Stevens in account with Grand ☐.

To balance as per report of 1855,.....	\$359 00
To amount received from Grand Secretary,.....	20 00

Contra.

By order No. 4—for printing Proceedings and Constitution, 80 18	
By order No. 5—for Grand <input type="checkbox"/> Jewels and Regalia,.....	100 00
By order No. 6—for Tying Grand <input type="checkbox"/> ,.....	18 00
	\$198 18

Balance on hand,	\$180 82
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I, J. H. Stevens, Grand Treasurer of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, do hereby certify the foregoing to be correct, as per orders and vouchers in my possession.

Given under my hand this 11th day of January, 1856.

J. H. STEVENS, *Grand Treasurer, pro tem.*

REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

Henry Reynolds in account with Grand ☐.

For dues received from St. John's <input type="checkbox"/> No. 1, for Degrees,	\$4 00	
" " " " " " Members,	7 50	\$11 50
" " " " " " Cataract <input type="checkbox"/> No. 2, for Degrees,	12 00	
" " " " " " Members,	24 50	36 50
" " " " " " St. Paul <input type="checkbox"/> No. 3,		71 50
" " " " " " Hennepin <input type="checkbox"/> No. 4, for Degrees,	23 00	
" " " " " " Members,	17 00	40 00
" " " " " " Ancient Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> No. 5, Degrees,	32 00	
" " " " " " Members,	19 00	51 00
" " " " " " from Shakopee <input type="checkbox"/> No. 6, for Degrees,	41 00	
" " " " " " Members,	6 00	47 00
" " " " " " Dakota <input type="checkbox"/> for Dispensation,		20 00
" " " " " " " " No. 7, for charter,		25 00
" " " " " " Red Wing <input type="checkbox"/> for Dispensation,		20 00
" " " " " " " " No. 8, for charter,		25 00
" " " " " " St. Paul <input type="checkbox"/> No. 3, for charter,		45 00

Contra.

	\$392 50
By amount paid Grand Treasurer,	\$20 00
By amount paid for Postage,	3 00
By amount paid for Stationery, &c.,	3 50
By amount paid Bro. A. T. O. Pierson, balance on Regalia,	74 76
	101 26

Balance in hands of Grand Secretary,	\$291 24
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I, Henry Reynolds, Grand Secretary of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, do hereby certify the foregoing to be correct as per orders and vouchers in my possession.

Given under my hand this 11th day of January, A. D., 1856.

HENRY REYNOLDS,

Grand Secretary.

The following report was received and adopted :

The committee to whom was assigned the duty of examining the books of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary, would respectfully report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find the books correctly kept, that proper vouchers are in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary respectively, for the disbursements made by them. The accounts are as follows :

In hands of Grand Treasurer, as per report 1855,.....	\$359 00
Received since.....	20 00
Total,	\$379 00
Paid out as per vouchers,.....	198 18
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer.	\$180 82
Received by G. S. since annual Communication of 1855, \$392 50	
Paid out as per vouchers,.....	101 26
Balance in hands of G. S.	\$291 24 \$291 24
In Grand <input type="checkbox"/> Charity Fund subject to draft,	\$472 06
All of which is respectfully submitted,	

I. P. WRIGHT, } Committee.
THOS. LOMBARD. }

On motion, it was unanimously resolved,

That the Grand ☐ of Minnesota present its fraternal thanks to Mrs. Pierson, wife of the M. W. Grand Master, for the skill, labor and beauty with which she has adorned the Grand ☐ regalia.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to install R. W. Brother A. T. C. Pierson, as M. W. G. M. for the ensuing year; after having been saluted and congratulated in accordance with Ancient Custom, M. W. A. T. C. Pierson proceeded to install the other elective officers, after which the usual proclamation was made by the Grand Marshal.

The M. W. G. M. announced the appointment of the following Subordinate officers :

- R. W. E. CASE, Minneapolis, Grand Treasurer.
- " " H. REYNOLDS, St. Anthony, Grand Secretary.
- " " REV. J. PENMAN, St. Paul, Grand Chaplain.
- W. GEO. L. BECKER " Grand Marshal.
- " LOT MOFFET, " Grand Standard Bearer.
- " L. E. THOMPSON, Stillwater, Grand Sword Bearer.
- " J. H. STEVENS, Minneapolis, Grand Senior Deacon.
- " GEO. T. VAIL, St. Anthony, Grand Junior Deacon.
- " W. W. PHELPS, Red Wing, Grand Pursuivant.
- " O. T. HAYES, Hastings, Senior Grand Steward.
- " B. PRESLEY, St. Paul, Junior Grand Steward.
- " A. RICHARDSON, St. Paul, Grand Tyler.

Bro. G. W. Prescott, of St. Paul, was appointed D. G. S. by the R. W. G. S.

On motion, ordered that twenty dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services while in attendance on this Grand ☐.

The Grand ☐ having disposed of all the business before them, a few brief remarks were made by the M. W. G. M. and R. W. G. C., after which he invoked the Throne of Divine Grace, and the M. W. Grand ☐ of Minnesota was closed in ample form.

A. T. C. PIERSON, *Grand Master.*

Attest,

HENRY REYNOLDS, *Grand Secretary.*

U. S. House of Representatives
Committee on Education and the Labor Force

person, who the M. W. Grand Master, for the skill, labor and time bestowed, which he has bestowed on the Order, is a slave.